

## Divine Filiation Quotes from St. Josemaria

### The Forge

329 A foolish child wails and stamps his feet when his loving mother puts a needle to his finger to get a splinter out. A sensible child, on the other hand, perhaps with his eyes full of tears -- for the flesh is weak -- looks gratefully at his good mother who is making him suffer a little in order to avoid much greater harm.  
Jesus, may I be a sensible child.

330 My child, my little donkey: if the Lord, with Love, has washed your grimy back, so accustomed to the muck, and has laid a satin harness upon you, and covered you with dazzling jewels, don't forget, poor donkey, that with your faults you *could* throw that beautiful load on to the ground]... But on your own you *couldn't* put it back on again.

331 Draw strength from your divine filiation. God is a Father -- your Father! -- full of warmth and infinite love. Call him Father frequently and tell him, when you are alone, that you love him, that you love him very much, and that you feel proud and strong because you are his son.

332 Cheerfulness is a necessary consequence of our divine filiation, of knowing that our Father God loves us with a love of predilection, that he holds us up and helps us and forgives us.  
Remember this and never forget it: even if it should seem at times that everything around you is collapsing, in fact nothing is collapsing at all, because God doesn't lose battles.

333 The best way of showing our gratitude to God is to be passionately in love with the fact that we are his children.

334 You are like the little pauper who suddenly finds out that he is the son of the King. That is why now the only thing that concerns you on this earth is the Glory of your Father God, his Glory in everything.

987 A son of God fears neither life nor death, because his spiritual life is founded on a sense of divine filiation. So he says to himself: God is my Father and he is the Author of all good; he is all Goodness.  
But, you and I, do we really act as sons of God?

11 You owe such a great debt to your Father-God! He has given you life, intelligence, will]... He has given you his grace --the Holy Spirit; Jesus, in the Sacred Host; divine sonship; the Blessed Virgin, the Mother of God and our Mother. He has given you the possibility of taking part in the Holy Mass; and he grants you forgiveness for your sins. He forgives you so many times. He has given you countless gifts, some of them quite extraordinary]...  
Tell me, my son: how have you corresponded so far to this generosity? How are you corresponding now?

25 If you are another Christ, if you behave as a son of God, you will set things alight no matter where you are. Christ enkindles all hearts, leaving none indifferent.

80 If you are a good son of God, your first and last thought each day will be for him, just as a little child needs to be assured of the presence of his parents when he gets up in the morning or goes to bed at night.

264 When the Lord brought you into the Church he put an indelible mark upon your soul through Baptism: you are a son of God. Don't forget it.

265 Give thanks often to Jesus, for through him, with him and in him you are able to call yourself a son of God.

266 If we feel we are beloved sons of our Heavenly Father, as indeed we are, how can we fail to be happy all the time? Think about it.

## **Furrow**

78 You don't feel like doing anything and there is nothing you look forward to. It is like a dark cloud. Showers of sadness fell, and you experienced a strong sensation of being hemmed in. And, to crown it all, a despondency set in, which grew out of a more or less objective fact: you have been struggling for so many years ... , and you are still so far behind, so far.

All this is necessary, and God has things in hand. In order to attain *gaudium cum pace* -- true peace and joy, we have to add to the conviction of our divine filiation, which fills us with optimism, the acknowledgment of our own personal weakness.

54 A piece of advice on which I have insisted repeatedly: be cheerful, always cheerful. It is for those to be sad who do not consider themselves to be sons of God.

61 "Happy?" -- The question made me think.

Words have not yet been invented to express all that one feels -- in the heart and in the will -- when one knows oneself to be a son of God.

240 For a son of God, contradictions and calumnies are what wounds received on the battlefield are for a soldier.

657 Here is a point for your daily examination. Have I allowed an hour to pass, without talking with my Father God? Have I talked to him with the love of a son? You can!

658 We should make no mistake. God is no shadowy or distant being who created us then abandoned us; nor is he a master who goes away and does not return. Though we do not perceive him with our senses, his existence is far more true than any of the realities which we touch and see. God is here with us, really present, living. He sees and hears us, He guides us, and knows our smallest deeds, our most hidden intentions.

We believe this -- but we live as if God did not exist. For we do not have a thought or a word for him; for we do not obey him, nor try to control our passions; for we do not show that we love him, and we do not atone ...

Are we going to continue living with a *dead faith*?

## **The Way**

274 'Father', said that big fellow, a good student at the university (I wonder what has become of him), 'I was thinking of what you told me--that I'm a son of God!--and I found myself walking along the street, head up, chin out, and a proud feeling inside... a son of God!'

With sure conscience I advised him to encourage that 'pride.'

892 What a wonderful thing it is to be a child! When a man asks a favour, his request must be backed by a list of his qualifications.

When it is a child who asks--since children haven't any qualifications--it's enough for him to say: I'm a son of So-and-so. Ah, Lord,--say it to him with all your heart!--I am a son of God!